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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/673,188	09/30/2003	Hironobu Sai	033022-010	1256

21839 7590 01/30/2006

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EXAMINER	
LE, THAO X	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2814	

DATE MAILED: 01/30/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/673,188	SAI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Thao X. Le	2814	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *22 December 2005*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,3,4,10 and 11* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) *5-9* is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1,3,4,10 and 11* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 3 is objected to because of the following informalities: Claims 3 depends on canceled claim 2. Appropriate correction is required.

Assuming claim 3 depends on claim 1.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

4. Claims 1-2, 3-4 and 10-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 5621750 to Iwano et al. in view of US 6716378 to Yang et al.

Regarding claim 1, Iwano semiconductor light emitting device (LED) in fig. 5A comprising: a mesa section (convex portion) having at least sandwich structure of an n-type clad layer 104, column 14 line 51, an active layer 105, column 14 line 52, and a p-type clad layer 106, column 14 line 56, which are constituted by compound semiconductor layers formed on a substrate 102, column 14 line 45; and an inorganic insulating film formed 108, column 15 lines 5-15, to cover the mesa section excluding a contact region.

But, Iwano does not disclose the LED wherein the inorganic insulating film having a porous area defined by cylindrical vacancies, having vacancy rate of 50% or more while being oriented substantially in parallel with a surface of the substrate, and wherein the vacancies are arranged at periodic interval.

However, Yang discloses the inorganic insulating film having a porous area defined by cylindrical vacancies, having vacancy rate of 50% or more, col. 6 lines 32-35, while being oriented substantially in parallel with a surface of the substrate, col. 6 line 30, and wherein the vacancies are arranged at periodic interval, fig. 2A-5C. At the time the invention was made; it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use the inorganic layer teaching of Yang to replace the inorganic layer 108 in Iwano's device, because such insulating material would have produced a low dielectric constant and low-cost inorganic dielectric material as taught by Yang in column 2 lines 38-40.

The 'vacancy' is being interpreted as a 'porosity' or 'holes' structure.

Regarding claim 3, Iwano does not disclose the semiconductor light emitting device according to claim 2, wherein the inorganic insulating film comprises a plurality of the porous structures, wherein the cylindrical are formed such that the cylindrical vacancies of adjacent porous structures are oriented in different directions.

However, Yang discloses a inorganic insulating film comprises a plurality of the porous structures, wherein the cylindrical are formed such that the cylindrical vacancies of adjacent porous structures are oriented in different directions, fig. 2A-5C col. 3 lines 8-20. At the time the invention was made; it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use the inorganic layer teaching of Yang to replace the inorganic layer 108 in Iwano's device, because such insulating material would have produced a low dielectric constant and low-cost inorganic dielectric material as taught by Yang in column 2 lines 38-40.

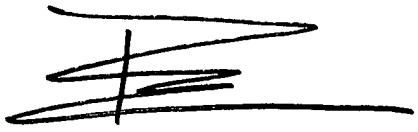
Regarding claims 4 and 10-11, Iwano discloses the semiconductor light emitting device according to any of claims to 3, wherein the mesa section includes a surface emission structure having an electrode 112, column 15 line 18, in a top portion and comprises a semiconductor layer 109, column 14 line 56, provided with an active layer 105 having a quantum well structure, column 14 line 53, constituted by a compound semiconductor, and a pad 112, fig. 1 (electrode 112 comprises a pad as shown in fig. 1), to come in contact with the electrode 112 is provided on the inorganic insulating film 108.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thao X. Le whose telephone number is (571) 272-1708. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wael M. Fahmy can be reached on (571) 272 -1705. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Thao X. Le
Patent Examiner
09 Jan. 2006